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Hyderabad Today

Krishnacharya Joshi

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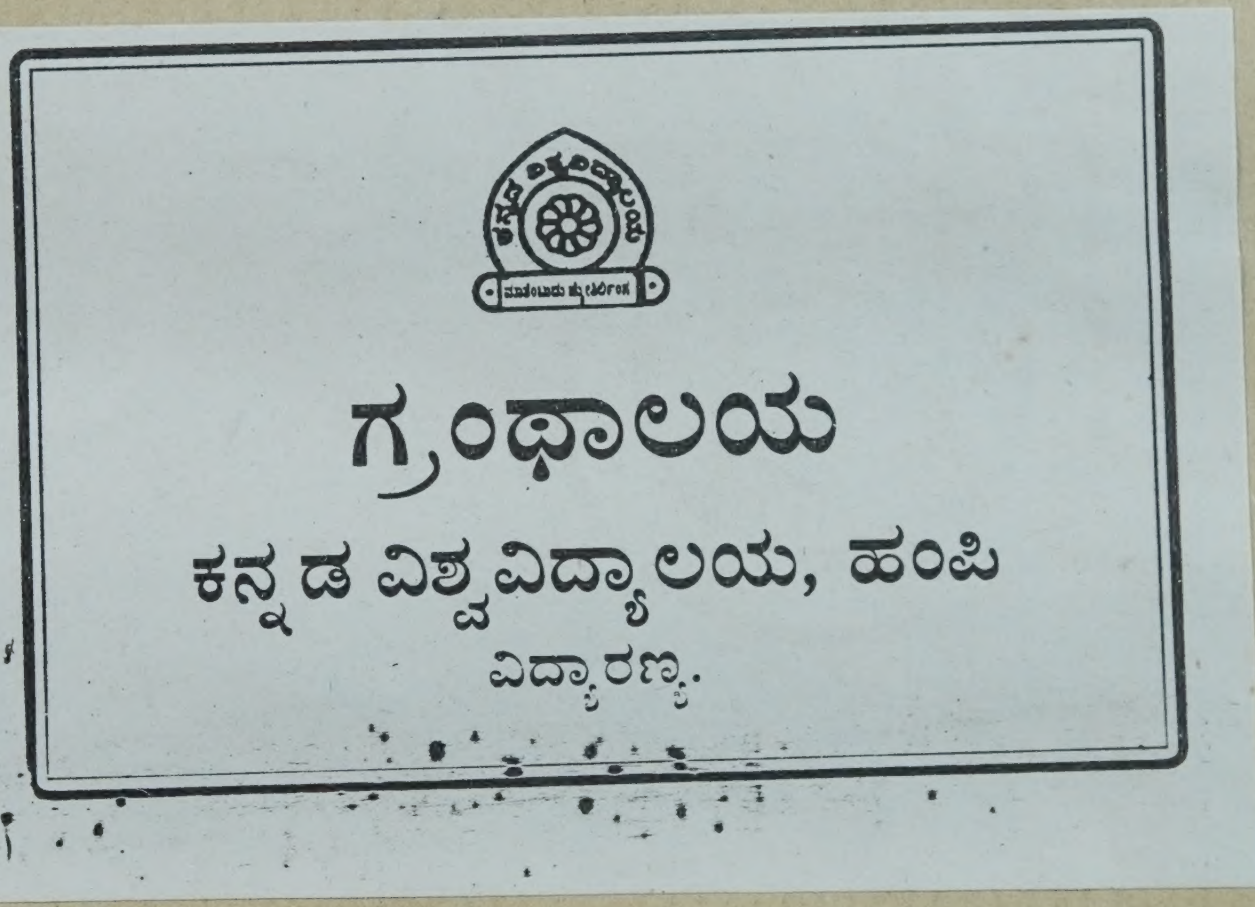
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Hyderabad Today.

by

Krishnacharya Joshi.

AKSHARA GRANTHALAYA
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The Rajakiya Grantha Prakashana Samiti had the honour to publish two booklets in Kanada written by Sjt. Krishnachari Joshi. Now this pamphlet "Hyderabad Today" written by the same author is being published. It is a Political subject and is in a lucid style. It is hoped the pamphlet will be well received by those who want to know the present political condition of Hyderabad.

The publishers take this opportunity to thank the author for kindly giving this booklet for our publication.

HYDERABAD, DN.
Date 16-6-1947.

(Sd.) G. S. MELKOTE,
President.

HYDERABAD TODAY.

Hyderadad the premier State in India has declared its Independence against the Sovereign will of the people. It has been decided not to join the Constituent Assembly and the Indian Union. Its repercussion will be far reaching. India is marching through a revolutionary period to achieve Independence. Hyderabad cannot supress the democratic aspirations of the people any longer. In this age ot democracy it is an admitted fact that Sovereignty rests with the people. Independence of the State means independence of the people. Hyderabad cannot be an exception to this rule. The people oi the State will assert their sovereign rights. They will adopt all the legitimate and peaceful means and see that Hyderabad joins the Indian Union through the existing Constituent Assembly. Hyderabad cannot be isolated from the rest of India. Independence to India means freedom to Forty crores of People. Peoples of Hyderabad have determined to achieve that freedom at all cost.

Fos the last Hnndred and fifty years, Hyderabad has been a great stronghold of British

Imperialism. It seems that Impeaialism will continue to remain here in one form or another' even after the liquidation ot British power in India. British India is rapidly marching towards her goal of complete Independence. By 15, August 1947, Dominion Status will be given to India and by June 1948 complete transfer of power will be made to the Representatives of the Indian People. How can the people of the States remain slaves when the people in British India become free? Who will become Indepeudent after the lapse of Paramountacy. Princess or People? It is evident that the people of India have struggled for freedom and as the result of their struggle the British Power is withdrawing from India. On ths contrary the Princess have helped the British Supremacy in maintaining its hold on India. Uuder the circumstances the people alone can claim to be Independent not the Princess after the liquidation of paramountacy.

The Cabinet Mission's proposals and Mountbatten's Plan have betrayed the cause of the States' pople. Sovereignty of the people is completly iguored. So the Princes want to overlord the people by continuing the beaurocratic hold. The rdsult is that some of the biggest

States like Travancore, Hyderabad etc., have declared Independence. It is a challenge to the people.

Hyderabad cannot be independent. Ultimately the sovereign will of the people must prevail. His Exalted Highness can retain his position as supreme head and constitutional monarch of the State, by conceding the sovereignty of the people. The recent Royal Declaration is the denial of people's Sovereignty. The people of the State cannot accept the same mainly for the following reasons:—

1. It is the right of the people to decide whether to join the constituent Assembly and Indian Inion. The people of the state have not consulted in this respect.

2. Hyderabad State cannot establish its Independence legally on the basis of treaty rights. The treaties were made neither with the consent of the people nor they were party to it.

3. Hyderabad was not an indepent State historically, before it entered into treaties with the British. The Butler Committee Report says "It is not in accordance with historical facts that

when the Indian States came into contact with the British Power they were independent, each possessed full Sovereignty and of a status which a modern international world would hold to be governed by the rules of international law. In fact, none of the states ever held international status. Nearly all of them were subordinates or tributary to the Moghul empire, the Mahratta supremacy or the Sikh kingdom, and dependent on them. Some were rescued, others were created, by the British."

4. If the said constituent Assembly and the future Indian Union refuse to recognise the Independence of Hyderabad, what will be its political significance. Geographically she is surrounded by Indian Provinces. What about the communication and transport? Hyderabad cannot maintain its Independent existence.

5. Issolation of the State canont solve the problem of defence nor Hyderabad have an international existance.

6. Above all Independence of states means the further vivisection of I n d i a, which the people of India including Hyderabad cannot tolerate.

ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

India will be free by June 1948. The whole world is keenly watching the political situation in India. People of Hyderabad cannot be deprived of their political rights. They rightly claim that the sovereignty of the people should be conceded and Responsible Government should be immediately established forth with. It is the right of the people to frame a constitution. Through, constitution making body based on adult franchise. The people of India are one. The people of Hyderadad cannot be politically isolated from rest of Indfa. Hyderabad comprises of Andhra, Maharastra, Karnatka areas. Which have been by historic accidents carved out their main stock in India obviously. The Socio economic problem is the same. In case Hyderabad fails to send the representatives to the Constituent Assembly the people will be forced to assert their soverign will and see their own way. Government of Hyderabad should take a realistic view of the political situation.

Hyderabad claims to be independent today. This is against the sovereign will of

the people. On the eve of its independence the Government professes that the people of the State are happy and prosperous. The other side of the picture is worth considering. The following pages will show the present condition of the people of the state.

FEUDAL BUREAUCRACY.

Hyderabad is groaning under the heels of feudal Bureaucracy today. It is politically backward and economically poor. The standard of literacy is very low. The people are steeped into ignorance. Civil liberties are denied to them. The Government have suppressed the democratic aspirations of the people, and have encouraged the anti-democratic and reactionary elements in the state. It has become impossible for the Goverument itself to have a control over those elements. The result is that there is no rule of l a w in the state. Life and property of a citizen are not safe. Inefficiency and red apism have weakened the adminstration In short the people of Hyderabad are in a miserable condition.

AREA & POPULATION.

The geographical position of Hyderabad state is worth consideration. It is surrounded

by Bombay Presidency, Madras Presidency, Central provinces. The State comprises an area of 826998 sq. miles and its population is 16,338534. It is divided into Andhra, Maharastra, and Karnatak provinces and contains about 22,500 villages. About 600 villages are under the jurisdiction of Jahagirdars or feudal lords. These jahagirdars occupy more than 12000 sd. miles with a population of 25,00,000 The revenue receipts of the State are estimated about 18 crores.

NEGATION OF PEOPLE"S SOVEREIGNTY.

Modern Governments derive power from the people with whom the sovereignty rests. But the Government of Hyderabad denies this right. The report of the Constitutional Reforms Committee says, "H.E.H. the Nizam is both the supreme head of the state and embodiment ot people's soverignty." The Government of Hyderabad has adopted this Feudal theory. theMajlis Ittehad-ul-Musalmin(The Muslim union) goes a step further and declares that the sovereignty rests with their community and H. E. H. is mere a symbol of their sovereignty. The Majlis maintains that Muslims of the state are the rulers and the others are the ruled.

This fantastic claim has created unrest among the non-Muslims of the state. In this age of democracy it is admitted by all that the sovereignty rests with the people. Hyderabad cannot be an exception to this rule. Hence the sovereignty can rest neither with the ruler nor with the people of his community but with the people of Hydcrabad as a whole.

THE OLD LEGISLATURE.

In contravention to this principle, the Government of Hyderobad has tried to maintain its bureaucratic hold over the people up to this day. The old legislative counеil was established in 1893 and was allowed to continue till 1947. It consisted, of 21 members, of whom only four were elected on a very narrow interest basis of pleades and Jahagirdars. The other members were nominated. The Legislative Council was purely a law making body. The members had no right of interp-ellation. The budget was not presented over for discussiou and the council met only once or twice in a year.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS.

In 1939 when the Constitutional Reforms were announced *Muslims* of Hyderadad

raised a hue and cry against the Government that the introduction of the Constitutional reforms means the beginning of the end of Muslim rule. Inspite of the fact that Muslim minority was raised to a majority in the Legislature, Muslims wanted secret assurances from the government to maintain their constitutfonal and p o l i t i c a l superiority. Hyderabad government always boasting of the tradition that equal treatment is given to all communities has betrayed the cause of the non-Muslims by entering into a secret agreement with the Muslims, which is not only unconstitutional but unworthy of civilised government. The following is the text of the secret assurances :-

CONFIDENTIAL NOTE.

With reference to the representation made by the Anjuman-e-Ittehadul-Muslmin on behalf of the Muslim community the council has made two recommendations viz. first, that as regards the claim that the Muslim representation in the Assembly as a minority, provision may be made in the Qanun-che-Mubarak that the three representatives of the Sarf-e-Khas Mubarak to be appointed by H. E. H. Thh Nizam, will be Muslims.

Secondly that as regards the necessary percentage which a candidate in any interest must secure of the votes as cast of his own community, the Qanun-che-Mubarak may also provide that it may be raised from 40 % to 51.

Therefore the Muslim community of Hyderabad is assured that practical measures shall be advocated in furtherence of the Reforms at its proper time, due effect will be given to the above named resolution. By the orders of His Exalted Highness I hand over this Confidential Note to Bahadur Yar Jung who is the leader of Anjuman-e-Ittehadul-Musalmin.

Sd/- KAZIM YAR JUNG
Chief Secretary

4th October 1939.
20th Shaban 1354 H.

Government of Hyderabad in a their communique while regretting for the publication of the secret note by thh Majlis Ittehad-ul-Muslamin have given elncidation for the secret assurance But they have hopelessly failed to justify the stand taken by them in making a secret pact. Since a long time Non-Muslims in the state are dis-satisfied with the communal policy of the Government and this secret note has shaken what little confidence they had in

the Government. Under these circumstances the people of the state cannot be blamed for having boycotted the most reactionary reforms.

THE PRESENT LEGISLATURE.

The house consist of 132 seats of which 76 are elected and 56 nominated. Of the elected seats 38 Muslims and 38 Hindus. The proportion of Hindus and Muslims is 50 : 50 although the Hindus from 85% of the population and Muslims 12 %

twenty-nine Muslims and Seventeen Hindus, Forty Six in all got elected without contest only Thirty persons were elected. The percentage of voting was very low as the boycott of Reforms by the State Congress was effective.

There are 46 nominated seats and ten Executive Council members are appointed-making 56 in all. The composition is as follows.

	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	Christ	Parsee
5- Haqas (big Jagirs)	4	1			
3 Sarfekhas	3				
38 oters					

	Muslims	Hindus	Sikhs	X's	Parsee
(i) Hari jans		5			
(ii) Lingayate		1			
(iii) Sikhs			1		
(iv) Arabs	1				
(v) Contractors	1				
(vi) Co-Mov.	2	2			
(vii) Women	1	1			
(viii) Journalist	1	1			
(ix) Parsees					1
(x) Christians				2	
(xi) General	1	2			
(xii) Officials	9	5			
46 nominated	23		19	1	2	1
10 Executive Council Member	8	1		1		
56	31		20	1	3	1

The Commnnal position :-	Muslims	Hiudus	Sikhs	Christ-tian		Parsee
Elected	38		38			
Nominated	23		19	1	2	1
Execuitve Council Members.	8		1		1	
	69		58	1	3	1

Thus in that house of 132 the Muslim having hardly 11% population have a clear majority of 69. The principle of parity is thrown over board.

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The Legislature is powerless. Important subjects have been kept out of the control of the Assembly and the rest are so modified that the Assembly cannot serve the cause of the people. There is no element of Responsible Government and the Resolutions of the Assembly are only recommendatory and not binding on the Executive. Nor the legislation is truely representative in character. Only the Ittehad-ul-Muslamin, and such other reactionary elements have been returned and the vested interest and yesmen have been nominated to the Legislature.

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Babe-Hukumat (The Executive Council) was established in 1329 F. It consitts of (9) members at present. The are appointed by H. E. H. The Nizam with the consultation of political department of the Govenment of India. The unrepresentative character of the Council on the one hand and the intervention of Paramount power in important affairs of the state on the

other, clarly show that it is neither responsible to to the people nor it is wholly responsible to H.E.H. The Nizam. Recently two members from the Legislature were appointed to the Council. This does not in any way change the Buareaucratic nature of the Council so long as the executive will not be responsible to the elected Legislature.

CIVIL LIBERTIES DENTED.

NO FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

There is no freedom of speech in the State. An ordinance was passed on 8th September 1921 prohibiting all political meetings. This was followed by a circular No. 53 dated 21st Nov. 1929. Under this Circular no meeting either political or non-political could be held without the previous permission of the specified officer. Recently these regulations have been relaxed in case of Hyderabad city, districts and Taluka head quarters, but the revised rules do not completely apply to urban areas. Although permission is not necessary but previous intimation is essential. The said gashti (Circular) is still in force so far as the rural area is concerned. In no case an outsider, however eminent his position may be, can address a meeting without the pervious permission of the

Government. Even after obtaining permission there is no guarantee that the meetIng will be held. The recent externment order passed on Jai Prakash Narain the Socialist leader is a glaring example.

ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

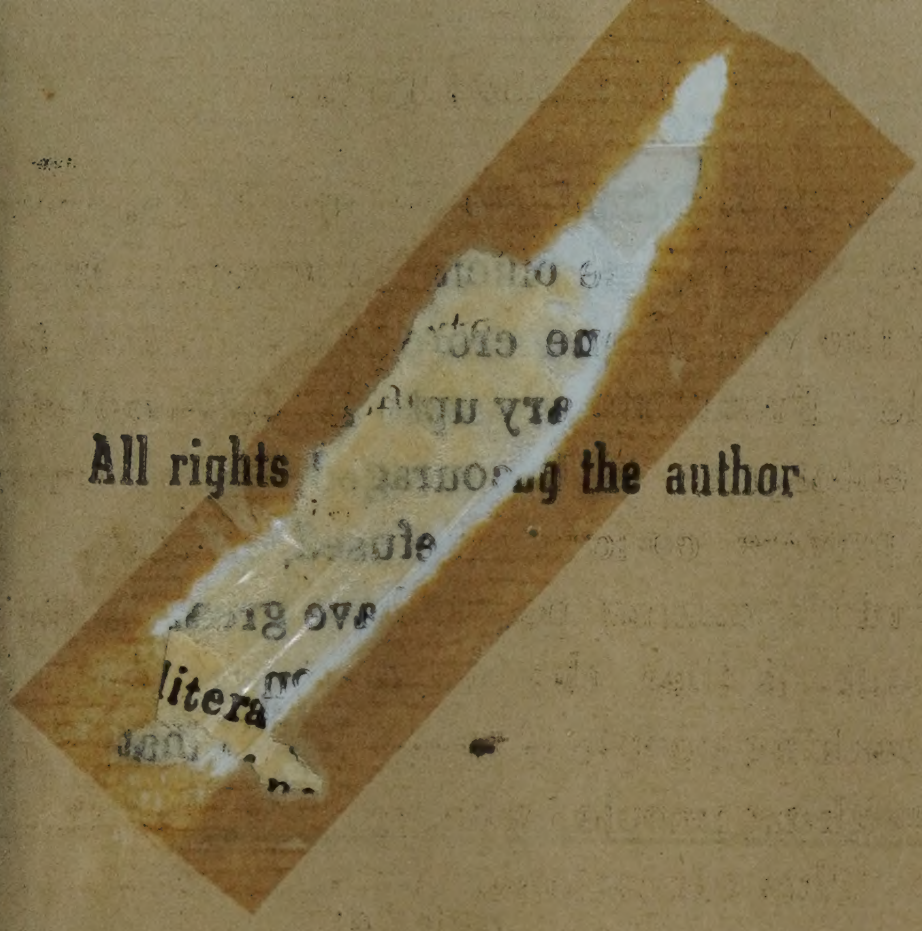
The bulk of the population lives in the villages. Most the villages are steeped into deep rooted poverty. They do not get sufficient food to eat. Majority of the people live in mud huts. There are no facilities to educate their children and no medical help when epidemic comes. The revenue assessment is very high and there is no sufficient agricultural relief. The agricultnral labourers do not get work for 12 months. The result is that they have to migrate to seek livlihood in big cities. Rural life in the village is most deplorable.

EDUCATION.

Illiteracy is a great hinderence to the progress of the people. In persuance of its fedual out look Hyderabad Government do not want to liquidate it. The percentage of literacy is very low. It is 6.8 only whereas it is 35 % in Cochin, 47 % in Travancore. 80 lakhs of people speak Andhra, 40 lakhs of people speak Marathi,

and about 25 lakhs of people speak Kanarese in the state. Urdu, the official language is imposed against the will of one crore and forty-two lakhs of people. From Primary to High School stages private enterprice is discouraged and permission to start private college is refused. On the other hand Urdu speaking people have got facilities. The result is that the proportion of literacy of Urdu-speaking people is greater than that of non-Urdu-speaking people, who form 85 % of the tax-payers. This educational policy of the Government is responsible for the illiteracy in the state.

The general administration of state is inefficient. Strict discipline is not maintained at all. In these days of levy and control bribary and corruption are rampant. But culprits are not brought to book. The Government is well aware of the situation. They have appointed officers to prevent curruption but they have hopelessly failed in putting a stop to it. The petty officials in the state consider themselves as omnipotent. They never think that their duty lies in serving the people. They always overload and harass the masses. The whole machinery repuires a general overhaul. Responsible Government is the only panacea to these evils.



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KACHIGUDA, HYDERARAD Dn.

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